

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**DEPARTMENT OF**  
**TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

D.T.E. 04-31 April 1, 2004

Western Massachusetts Electric Company

Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy of its 2004 Energy Efficiency Plan.

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NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

On March 1, 2004, Western Massachusetts Electric Company ("WMECo") filed with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") its 2004 Energy Efficiency Plan ("2004 Plan"). WMECo filed the 2004 Plan pursuant to G.L. c. 25, § 19, G.L. c. 25A, § 11G, and Order Promulgating Final Guidelines to Evaluate and Approve Energy Efficiency Programs, D.T.E. 98-100 (2000) ("Guidelines"). The 2004 Plan includes programs for residential, low-income, and commercial and industrial customers. WMECo proposes (1) budgets for these programs and (2) a method for calculating shareholder incentives that differs from the method set forth in the Guidelines.

On March 25, 2004, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Division of Energy Resources ("DOER") filed a report with the Department ("DOER Report") stating that the 2004 Plan was consistent with statewide energy efficiency goals. The Department will investigate whether the 2004 Plan is consistent with G.L. c. 25, § 19, G.L. c. 25A § 11G, and the Guidelines.

A copy of WMECo's filing and DOER Report are on file at the Department's offices, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts for public view during business hours. Copies are also on file for public view at Western Massachusetts Electric Company, 100 Summer Street, 23rd Floor, Boston, MA 02110-2131. Any person desiring further information regarding WMECo's filing and DOER Report should contact counsel for WMECo, Stephen Kliensky, Esq., at (617) 345-1066. Any person desiring further information regarding this notice should contact Julie Howley Westwater, Hearing Officer, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, at (617) 305-3500.

Any persons wishing to submit written comments on WMECo's filing and the DOER Report should file an original and three (3) copies of comments with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary to the Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110, not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on April 21, 2004. One

copy must also be sent to Stephen Klionsky, Esq., Western Massachusetts Electric Company, 100 Summer Street, 23rd Floor, Boston, MA 02110-2131.

In addition, please submit all comments to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to [dte.efiling@state.ma.us](mailto:dte.efiling@state.ma.us); or (2) on a 3.5" disk, IBM-compatible format. The text of the e-mail or the disk label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding [D.T.E. 04-31]; (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document (e.g., Comments). The electronic filing should also include the name, title and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either Corel Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".wpd" suffix), in Microsoft Word (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix), or as an Adobe PDF file (naming the document with a ".pdf" suffix). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. All comments submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's web site: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.



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ORDER OF NOTICE

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Western Massachusetts Electric Company is required to give notice of said request for comments by publication hereof once at least fourteen (14) days prior to the close of the comment period in the Boston Globe or Boston Herald, the Springfield Union-News and the Berkshire Eagle and to make return of service and publication, to include the original clippings of the newspaper publications, at the close of the comment period.

The Western Massachusetts Electric Company shall post by mail a copy of this Notice and Order, at least fourteen (14) days prior to the close of the comment period to: the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Energy Resources; Associated Industries of Massachusetts, Inc.; the Low-Income Energy Affordability Network; and the service list in D.P.U/D.T.E. 97-106.

By Order of the Department,

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Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary